

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claim 6 without prejudice and amend the claims as follows:

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1. (Currently Amended) A foot-operated input unit (3) for a computer (1), which forms a dictating machine, comprising
foot-operated input means device (24) for manually inputting control information (SI) ~~by which for~~ an audio reproduction mode of the dictating machine ~~can be activated (25) or deactivated~~ operated (26), wherein ~~while, in the case of activated audio reproduction mode,~~ audio information (AI) stored in the dictating machine can be delivered to headphones (34) or a loudspeaker (32) respectively, and including connection device means (28, 33, 35) for connecting the input unit (3) to the computer, wherein ~~while~~ the control information (SI) can be delivered to the computer (1) by using the connection means (28, 33, 35), characterized
~~in that~~ wherein a digital data bus link can be connected to the connection device means (28, 33, 35) and
~~in that~~ the connection device means ~~are~~ is arranged for receiving the audio information (AI) as digital audio data from the computer (1) and ~~for delivering the control information (SI) as control data to the computer (1) via~~ using the digital data bus link, and
~~in that~~ the headphones (34) or the loudspeaker respectively, can be connected to the connection device, and
wherein the connection device is means (28, 33, 35).

2. (Currently Amended) An input unit (3) as claimed in claim 1, characterized ~~in that~~ wherein audio processing means (29) ~~are provided which are arranged for processes ing the audio information (AI) received via~~ from the connection means (28, 33, 35) and ~~for delivers ing an analog audio signal (AS3) for the headphones (34) or loudspeaker respectively, to the connection means (33).~~

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3. (Currently Amended) An input unit (3) as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that wherein the connection means (28) are is arranged for setting up a USB data link (Universal Serial Bus: Specification Version 1.0 on January 15, 1996, or version 2.0).

4. (Currently Amended) An input unit (3) as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that wherein a loudspeaker (32) is provided and in that the audio processor ing means (29) are is arranged for delivering the analog audio signal to a built-in loudspeaker (32).

5. (Currently Amended) An input unit (3) as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that wherein connection means are is arranged for setting up a digital data bus link over a radio-frequency radio link.

6. (Currently Amended) An input unit as claimed in claim 5, characterized in that wherein the connection means are arranged for setting up a radio-frequency radio link corresponding to the Bluetooth protocol Specification (Bluetooth Special Interest Group, May 1998).